

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 ACDA-07 DHA-02 MC-02 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 COME-00 TRSE-00 IGA-02 /034 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:RTITUS
APPROVED BY PM/SAS:DJJAMES
ARA/RPP:CFINAN
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ARA/CEN:GGUERRA
PM/MC:BFEMMINELLA (SUBS)
DOD/ISA/DSAA:FTHIEBERGER
DOD/ISA:COL.TAUSTIN (INFO)
-----151354Z 009119 /41
R 142152Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, SHUM, PFOR, NU

SUBJECT: SALE OF SMALL ARMS AND AMMO TO NICARAGUA

REF: A) STATE 201114-1976 B) STATE 242823-1976
C) MANAGUA 4642 D) SECDEF 221854Z MAR 77 TO MILGP MANAGUA

1. DEPARTMENT APPROVED EXPORT LICENSES FOR 6000 M-16A1
RIFLES SEVEN MONTHS AGO AND APPRENTLY ALL OR LARGE PART
OF ORDER HAS BEEN DELIVERED.

2. DEPARTMENT ALSO AUTHORIZED DOD TO PREPARE LETTERS OF
OFFER FMS SALE OF 510 M-60 MACHINE GUNS, 150 M203
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GRENADE LAUNCHERS AND CONCURRENT AMMO FOR RIFLES AND
MACHINE GUNS.

3. OUR RELUCTANCE LAST YEAR TO AUTHORIZE ABOVE LICENSES
AND SALES, AS EXPRESSED IN REF A, HAS RECENTLY BEEN
GIVEN ADDED FORCE BY RENEWED ALLEGATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS
VIOLATIONS IN NICARAGUA. WHILE IT IS TOO LATE TO STOP

DELIVERY OF M-16A1 RIFLES, WE HAVE REQUESTED DOD TO HOLD UP APPROVAL OF DELIVERY OF 5.56MM AMMO FOR RIFLES, M-60 MACHINE GUNS AND AMMO AND GRENADE LAUNCHERS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEC. 502(B)(A)(3) OF FAA OF 1961, AS AMENDED, UNTIL THERE IS CLEAR INDICATION OF IMPROVEMENT IN GON HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD. WE ARE INFORMING NICARAGUAN EMBASSY OF DELAY IN APPROVING DELIVERY OF REMAINING WEAPONS AND AMMO AND OF REASONS FOR IT.

4. WE HAVE ALSO RECENTLY DENIED LICENSES FOR EXPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITIES OF REVOLVERS AND PISTOLS, AS WELL AS HANDGUN AMMO AND 30/30 RIFLE CARTRIDGES. SALE IN NICARAGUA OF ALL THESE ITEMS "FOR SPORTING PURPOSES AND PERSONAL DEFENSE" WAS TO BE THROUGH NATIONAL GUARD AS "DEALER". WE RECOGNIZE THAT DISTRIBUTION OF ALL ARMS AND AMMO TO RETAILERS IS ONE OF GN'S FUNCTIONS, BUT WE DO NOT WISH AT PRESENT TO APPROVE ANY SMALL ARMS OR AMMO CONSIGNED TO GN.

5. CONCERN IN DEPARTMENT AND CONGRESS OVER GENERALLY POOR LONG TERM HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN NICARAGUA NECESSITATES CHANGE IN TYPE OF EQUIPMENT TO BE COVERED BY FY 77 FINANCING IF AGREEMENT IS EVENTUALLY SIGNED. WE WILL NOT RPT NOT AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF SMALL ARMS, AMMO AND GRENADE LAUNCHERS UTILIZING FY 77 FINANCING AND HAVE ALREADY INFORMED NICARAGUAN EMBASSY OF PROBABLE DIFFICULTY IN APPROVING SIMILAR ITEMS. REQUEST EMBASSY/MILGP SUGGEST SUBSTITUTE DEFENSE ARTICLES FOR POTENTIAL FY 77 FMS FINANCING WHICH WOULD FIT INTO NATIONAL GUARD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MODERNIZATION PLANS WITHOUT RAISING QUESTION ABOUT POSSIBLE DIVERSION TO DOMESTIC REPRESSIVE ACTION. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SMALL ARMS, HUMAN RIGHTS, POLICIES, ARMS EXPORT LICENSES, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE110196
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RTITUS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770172-0660
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770557/aaaabwzu.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: MASS, SHUM, PFOR, NU, US
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Type: TE
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